

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

COMMEMORATING KOJO NNAMDI'S
10TH ANNIVERSARY

• Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, today I commemorate the 10th anniversary of Kojo Nnamdi broadcasting on the American University's WAMU 88.5. Over the course of the last decade, based on his skills as an interviewer and his keen insight, Nnamdi has grown into a national treasure and one of the most respected broadcasters in the National Capital Region. "The Kojo Nnamdi Show" features 2 hours of news, political issues, and social trends of the day in a magazine program format.

It is hard to remember a time before Kojo Nnamdi was part of the WAMU 88.5 broadcasting family, but it was just 10 years ago, in 1998, when Nnamdi left his host position at WHUT-TV's public affairs show "Evening Exchange" to become the host of WAMU's radio program "Public Interest." He replaced former host Derek McGinty, filling a vibrant radio talk show slot that can be traced back to 1977 with Fred Fiske. The program officially was renamed "The Kojo Nnamdi Show" in September 2002.

Nnamdi was born Rex Paul in Guyana. He came to this country in 1967 to attend college. He began broadcasting in 1973 at WHUR-FM and chose his radio persona based on the Akan word for Monday—Kojo—and Nnamdi Azikiwe, a fellow journalist and the founder of modern Nigerian nationalism who was the first President of Nigeria.

Nnamdi's global perspective and inviting demeanor have made his radio program a must-do for both regional and national leaders. Each weekday, he challenges his guests and call-in audience alike to explore a variety of current and emerging topics relevant to our daily lives. As good a listener as he is an interviewer, Nnamdi opens our consciousness to new ideas. He is so highly skilled that the Washington Post has called him, "maybe the best interviewer in town."

Locally, Nnamdi has become one of the foremost experts on the political and social scenes of Annapolis, Richmond, and Washington, DC. On Fridays, 1 hour of his show is renamed "The Politics Hour" while he opens his airwaves to the region's elected officials, community activists and local leaders. I personally have looked forward to joining Nnamdi for his show time and again.

As Kojo Nnamdi enters his second decade broadcasting at WAMU 88.5, I take great pride in joining with countless others in our community and across the Nation in congratulating him on this milestone. I listen with anticipation for his next topic and his next guest who will help open our minds and further our dialog. •

175TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
MARTIN GUITAR FACTORY

• Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, today I congratulate the Martin Guitar Factory, in Nazareth, PA, on celebrating 175 years of successful guitar making. C.F. Martin & Co. has continually produced the highest level of craftsmanship, design, quality, and tone for the acoustic guitar for over a century and a half.

Established in 1833, the Martin Guitar Factory has been at the leading edge of guitar manufacturing for six generations. The founder of Martin Guitar, Christian Frederick Martin, Sr., was born in 1796 in Germany and began the craft at the young age of 15. Since the guild system in Germany limited the opportunities for guitar production, C.F. Martin, Sr., decided to emigrate to the United States in the 1830s. Martin Guitar set up shop in New York City for 6 years before finally settling in the Lehigh Valley in 1839. After a century and a half of success in guitar manufacturing, C.F. Martin & Co. continues to produce the finest quality American acoustic guitars today. Each year, Martin Guitar manufactures and ships approximately 170,000 guitars all over the world and welcomes over 21,000 visitors to its factory in Nazareth, Northampton County. Martin Guitars have been played by some of our Nation's greats, such as Elvis and Johnny Cash, and are still being played today by Eric Clapton, Beck, Willie Nelson, and John Mayer, to name just a few.

In addition to Martin Guitar's accomplishments and I believe this is key, the company has demonstrated incredible staying power through six generations. C.F. Martin & Co. is the oldest surviving manufacturer of guitars in the world and is thus an extraordinary model to other businesses. I am proud to say that C.F. Martin & Co. has long been and will remain a vital staple of the Lehigh Valley.

Special recognition for this anniversary belongs to the sixth generation chairman and CEO Mr. Christian F. Martin IV, and the hard-working staff of Martin Guitar, for continuing the long standing tradition of crafting America's finest acoustic guitars. It is with great pride that I congratulate the Martin Guitar Factory on 175 outstanding years of achievement. •

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT FULWIDER

• Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, today I congratulate Mr. Bob Fulwider as he nears the end of his term as the 103rd chairman of the Nation's largest insurance association, the Independent Insurance Agents & Brokers of America, IIABA. Mr. Fulwider was elected to the IIABA's executive committee in 2002, and was installed as the association's chairman last September.

Founded in 1896, IIABA, or the Big "I" as it is better known, is the Nation's oldest and largest association of

independent insurance agents and brokers, representing a network of more than 300,000 agents, brokers, and their employees. During his term as chairman of the Big "I", Bob Fulwider has been a leader on a number of issues for the association including regulatory reform and natural disaster insurance. Perhaps most importantly, during this year's consideration of the farm bill and specifically its impact on crop insurance, Mr. Fulwider was a forceful advocate for his association who led with professionalism and determination.

Mr. Fulwider has over his lifetime built two financial and insurance planning service businesses throughout eastern Iowa including West Liberty and West Branch, IA. Mr. Fulwider is also a former national board director and a past president of the Independent Insurance Agents of Iowa, IIAI.

Mr. Fulwider has been honored with several national and state awards. He has been honored with two IIABA Presidential Citations—in 1987 and 1994. He was named IIAI Agent of the Year in 1993 and received the association's "Mr. Chairman" Award in the same year. He also received the Agent of the Year Award in 1990. He is the first honoree in the Iowa association's history to receive the award twice. In 2002, Mr. Fulwider was honored with the Sydney O. Smith Award, IIABA's highest individual government affairs honor. In 2003 he was named to the Iowa Insurance Hall of Fame.

In addition, Mr. Fulwider is extremely active in his community. After graduating from Iowa State University, he taught in Iowa public high schools and served on the Iowa State University faculty prior to entering the insurance business. Mr. Fulwider is past president of the Muscatine County Economic Development Council and training director and board member of the Iowa Council—Boy Scouts of America. Mr. Fulwider has served as Scoutmaster of his local troop for 25 years and has received numerous Scouting awards including the Silver Beaver. Additionally, he is active in his church and Masonic Lodge.

I want to thank Bob Fulwider for his work with the IIABA over the years and for his commitment to his profession, his community, and our state of Iowa. His efforts are greatly appreciated. I am proud to count Bob as both a constituent and a friend. I wish him, his wife Jan, and their family all the best in their future endeavors. •

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF HEMATOLOGY

• Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to congratulate the American Society of Hematology, which is observing its 50th anniversary this year, and to salute the advances hematologists have been able to make